30. *Water Supply schemes.* The capital outlay on the Trivandrum Willingdon Water Works is expected to stand at Rs 58·2 lakhs at the end of this year and the expenditure provided for in the budget is Rs ·50 of a lakh for extension of street mains and settlement of contractors' accounts and other liabilities.

The schemes for the supply of water in the towns of Alleppey and Shencottah are progressing and it is expected that the Supply could be begun in October next. The water supply scheme for the Nagercoil town is also making fairly good progress.

31. *Trivandrum Drainage.* Sewer-laying work is in good progress, as also the construction of manholes and house connections. Pumps for the Pumping Station at Kuriathi and the sub-pumping Station at Karamanai are expected to arrive from abroad and be installed towards the middle of next year. The construction of the Pump House will be started soon after the monsoons. The expenditure under the scheme would stand at about Rs 16·3 lakhs by the end of this year. An expenditure of Rs 5·7 lakhs has also been provided for in the next year's budget.

32. *Railways.* The capital charge for the Quilon-Trivandrum Railway and the Chakai-Thampanur Extension at the close of the year ended 31st March 1938 was B. Rs. 52·69 lakhs and B. Rs. 27·29 lakhs respectively. The budget estimate for 1115 provides for a sum of Rs. 26,790 mainly to meet payments on account of land acquisition charges anticipated to be decreed by courts. The South Indian Railway Administration is now working the Extension provisionally as part of the Quilon-Trivandrum Section, pending settlement of the terms which are still under consideration. The agreement is expected to be drawn up shortly.

The working of the Travancore Railway resulted in a loss of B. Rs. 52,188 for the year ended 31st March 1939 representing the deficit in the interest guaranteed by the Government, the amount being worked out on yearly calculations in accordance with the revised orders of the Government of India. A sum of B. Rs. 13,092 has also been refunded by the Railway Company in addition to the sum of B. Rs 15,052 already refunded as mentioned in my predecessor's speech last year.

In this connection, I may also inform the House that our representation for the reduction of the rate of interest, with retrospective effect, on moneys advanced by the Secretary of State for discharging debentures in 1924 and 1926, from 5½ per cent to 3¼ per cent per annum is still under the consideration of the Central Government. The probable savings if the Central Government accept our representation would be about Rs ·75 of a lakh.

Commercial Undertakings.

33. *Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project.* The works in connection with this scheme are nearing completion. The sub-stations at Mavelikara, Kundara, Pallom, Kothamangalam and Alwaye are ready. The construction of the new Power House at Pallivasal is over and the generating plant is being re-erected. The major transmission lines are

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly